



Montana Department of
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

"Healthy environment, healthy people"

Steve Bullock, Governor
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December 4, 2013

STATE OF MONTANA
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL ADDENDUM
RFP NO.: 413019

TO BE OPENED: December 16, 2013

TITLE:

Laboratory Services Related to Investigation and Cleanup of
State and Federal Superfund, Abandoned Mine, Petroleum Release Sites and Other Contaminants

ADDENDUM NO. 1

To All Offerors:

Attached are written questions received in response to this RFP. These questions, along with the State's response, become an official amendment to this RFP.

All other terms of the subject "Request for Proposal" are to remain as previously stated.

Acknowledgment of Addendum:

The offeror for this solicitation must acknowledge receipt of this addendum. This page must be submitted at the time set for the proposal opening or the proposal may be disqualified from further consideration.


I acknowledge receipt of Addendum No.1.

Signed: _____

Company Name: _____

Date: _____

Sincerely,


Vicki J. Woodrow
Contracts Officer

Question/Answer
<p>Q 1. The documents in the solicitation did not contain an editable version of a price list. Did you intend for the laboratories to provide general price lists or lists that are specific to the analyses requested? Both Appendix A and Appendix B were issued in PDF format. If you want solicitation-specific prices lists, would it be possible to receive copies of these documents in Word or Excel format that could then be used to provide pricing? If you want solicitation-specific price lists, we have the following additional questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Especially in Appendix A, multiple methods are listed under several of the line items. These often have different associated costs and/or only apply to one matrix. Would you prefer the items be broken out to the different costs (with associated methods) or should the highest-cost method be bid? (see Item 8 for water methods for a soil matrix and metals methods, Items 37-54 for different cost methods in one line item). b. If multiple metals are analyzed together, cost savings can be realized. There is no mechanism to accommodate this in this table. Can we add to this table? c. If we use a different method to analyze for the same parameter, can we offer a different method than that listed in Appendix A or Appendix B? (see Items 26, 62, 63 which specify methods no longer approved under the EPA Method Update Rule (MUR)) d. In Appendix A, there is no separate line item for summa cannister or flow controller rental. Should these be included in the price or should separate line items be added? (See Item 83, for example). <p>A 1. Offerors may provide either general or specific price lists, and may incorporate all analysis into a single price list. The Excel files for Appendices A & B will be provided with the RFP 413019 files if Offerors choose to use that format. Please provide a price list for the specific analyses that your company performs. Where there are different /multiple methods listed in the RFP for a specific analyses you should include in your response the associated cost for each method your company performs. Offeror may include multiple metals or other analysis it offers in the price list. If your lab uses a different method than the method cited in the RFP footnote, flag your response and cite the method used. Differing methods and related analysis will be considered for acceptance by DEQ. Separate lines may be added for rental equipment although the analysis affected must indicate if the price listed is subject to additional cost.</p> <p>Q 2. In Appendix A-line item #84, Analytical Parameter "VPH or APH in a Summa Canister" is listed with footnote #19. This footnote specifies that the required reporting values are set forth in DEQ-7, but DEQ-7 does not reference air media. Can you specify if the reporting requirements as outlined in MADEP APH Method should be followed or if Montana DEQ has specific analyte and reporting limit requirements for APH in air? If the method requirements as outlined by MADEP are to be followed, is it acceptable to follow the requirements as prescribed in the updated and finalized document from 2009 as opposed to the draft referenced in Appendix A from 2000?</p> <p>A 2. Please follow the reporting requirements outlined in the updated and finalized 2009 MADEP APH Method, or indicate differing method as directed in the response to Q1 above.</p>

Q 3. In addition to this, Appendix A-line item #2 "VPH (Includes MBTEXN)" by MADEP's 1998 method is requested for soil, water and air in a Tedlar bag. Can we assume that this VPH reference only applies to the soil and water and the separate APH requirement in a Summa canister applies to air? If not, please provide the method requirements specific to air samples in Tedlar bags

A 3. During certain sampling events, DEQ may accept VPH analysis from a Tedlar bag using MA-VPH by GC / FID. If conducting the VPH or APH analysis from a Summa canister please specify the analysis and associated cost as described in the response to Q1.

Q 4. Appendix A-Line item #86 "Methane" specifies method SW 8015M for air in a Tedlar bag. As 8015 is a water/soil method would it be acceptable to propose the air method equivalent of ASTM D-1946?

A 4. The air method equivalent of ASTM D-1946 is acceptable. Please specify the analysis and associated cost as described in the response to Q1.

Q 5. Draft Agreement, Section IV.E.2. discusses "Contractor shall maintain the records at the address of its liaison in Section 17". We don't see a Section 17 in this document or elsewhere in the RFP. Can this be clarified?

A 5. The reference to Section 17 was erroneously included in the Appendix C, draft Agreement Section IV.E.2. The second sentence of Appendix C, draft Agreement Section IV.E.2 is hereby deleted and replaced with the following language: "Contractor will maintain the records at the address of its liaison, or other location agreed to by DEQ, and allow the entities in the preceding sentence to have access to them for review and copying during normal business hours for as long as the Contractor retains the records pursuant to this Section IV.E."

Section IV.E.3 is hereby deleted and replaced with the following language: "Contractor will disclose all information and reports resulting from access to the records maintained pursuant to Section IV.E to any of the agencies referred to in paragraph E.2."

Q 6. Questions as they relate to Appendix A:

- line 10 - Pace analyzes TPH by 8015 for Gasoline range organics, and Diesel Range organics (carbon range is C9-C40)
- line 11- Would Oil and grease by EPA method 1664 be acceptable for the water analysis?
- line 26 - Would TOC by 9060A or 5310C be an acceptable alternative?
- line 55 - Would SM 4500- CN -E be an acceptable alternative?
- line 62 - Would pH by 4500H+B be an acceptable alternative?
- line 63 - Would Alkalinity by SM2320B be an acceptable alternative?
- line 73 Nitrate - We extract by ASA 33-3.2, an extraction using KCL. Please verify the extraction method quoted. Would extraction by ASA 33-3.2 be an acceptable method?
- line 75 sulfate - the extraction method quoted 28-5.1 is not a method but a general discussion of various sulfate extraction solutions that could be utilized. Pace performs a water extraction. Would this be acceptable?

- The last line has no number, would RSK 175 be an acceptable alternative for Methane, Ethane and Ethene?

A 6. See response to Q1 above.

Q 7. If a vendor is unable to run a method listed in either Appendix, how should they indicate that to DEQ?

A 7. See response to Q1 above.

Q 8. The draft Agreement Section II.F (pg. 2) list of invoicing standards includes the date the analysis was performed (1), a copy of the chain of custody (8), and the name of the staff submitting the sample (9). Would it be acceptable if a vendor provided this information in the PDF Analysis report cover letter, and analysis results and the chain of custody with the report at the back for the PDF document separately and not with the invoice?

A 8. The draft Agreement has been amended to omit the requirement of the chain of custody form with a submitted invoice. The date the analysis was performed and the name of the staff submitting the sample will still be required within the invoice to facilitate tracking and payment within DEQ. Alternative language may be proposed pursuant to the instructions set forth in RFP 413019 Section I.B.

The second sentence in the first paragraph of Appendix C, draft Agreement Section II.E is hereby deleted and replaced with the following language: "Written reports must reference this DEQ Contract Number, and include the date and description of the analysis performed and a copy of the chain of custody form."

Numbers 8, 9, and 10 of Appendix C, draft Agreement Section II.F are hereby deleted and replaced with the following language:

- "8. the name of the DEQ staff submitting the sample; and
9. this DEQ Contract Number."

Q 9. If a vendor wanted to submit a bid for both Appendix A and B, and if that vendor was chosen and agreed to enter into a contract, could one contract Agreement cover both appendices? Or would DEQ prefer duplicate agreement documentation submitted for both the appendix A and B?

A 9. Only one Agreement will be executed between DEQ and selected firms that agree to enter a contract. Typically Appendices A & B from an Offeror's Proposal are combined into a single Appendix, which is attached to the final Agreement. Alternative arrangements are possible and may be considered based on individual circumstances. Offeror may alternately submit one list including all analysis offered with its proposal.

Q 10. The RFP states the bid can be no longer than 15 2-sided pages. What are the consequences for a bid that is longer than 15 pages?

A 10. A proposal may not exceed 15 pages as set forth in RFP No. 413019 Section I.A, with each printed side of a page constituting one page (i.e. 15 2-sided pages would constitute 30 pages). Resumes, cover letters, proposed contract changes, and price lists/catalogues will not be included in the page count. Any additional pages will not be considered when evaluating an Offeror's proposal.